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engaged in colonial administration. The appointments to the American colonial service thus far have fortunately been of such a character as to start our colonial enterprises under the most favorable conditions, but after military control of our possessions is withdrawn it will be necessary to establish some permanent system of training for this peculiar branch of the civil service. It is hard to see how even the most violent opponents of the civil service system can be opposed to such special training as that given at West Point and at Annapolis, and, if it be granted that the government of colonies presents peculiar questions for solution by the government official, it must also be admitted that special qualifications should be required for appointment to this branch of the government service also. Professor Lowell's contention, briefly summarized, is that these special qualifications can only be acquired as a result of long training, and that this training can be most readily given in a special school. The entrance examinations at West Point and Annapolis cover mainly those subjects which are of a general educational rather than an immediate practical value, so that a similar character might well be given the examinations for entrance to the Colonial School.

JAMES T. YOUNG.

*Supplement to the Nouveau Dictionnaire de Géographie Universelle.*  
2 vols. Price 44f. Librairie Hachette et Cie. Paris, 1900.

*The International Geography.* By Seventy Authors, with 488 illustrations. Edited by HUGH ROBERT MILL, D. Sc. Pp. xx, 1088. Price, \$3.50. New York: D. Appleton & Co., 1900.

The supplement to the "Nouveau Dictionnaire de Géographie Universelle" is now complete, and the publishers have brought to a successful termination the monumental task which they began a score of years ago. In 1894, the seventh and last volume of the main body of the work was published, the first volume having appeared nearly a decade earlier. The main features and importance of the dictionary were noticed in the review published in the ANNALS, Volume VIII, pages 188-190.

It had taken so many years to bring out the main body of the work that the publishers felt it necessary, immediately upon the completion of the seven volumes, to begin the preparation of the supplement. When they undertook the supplement it was supposed by them that the material for it could be kept within the limits of a single large volume, and that this volume could be finished within two years. However, as the work on the supplement progressed, it was found that two large volumes would be required, and it was not until 1900 that these two volumes were completed. This delay of four years in the completion of the supplement has been an advantage rather than

otherwise, because it has enabled the authors and publishers of the supplement to deal with the numerous recent important changes that have taken place in the political geography of the world and has permitted them to present in a satisfactory way the considerable additions to geographical knowledge that have been made during the past five years. The articles on such regions as the Soudan, the Philippines, Indo-China, and even the Transvaal, are thoroughly up to date.

The general purpose of the supplement is to present only such information in regard to the various places discussed as was necessary in order to bring the articles in the main body of the work down to date. In the articles contained in the supplement the same general plan of treatment has been followed that was adopted for the original work, and with very satisfactory results. The supplement and the original volumes constitute a comprehensive work of solid merit, and the publishers and the public generally are to be congratulated upon the successful termination of this most valuable dictionary.

When "The International Geography" was announced, teachers and general readers of geography were much interested; but not a few persons felt that the difficulties in the way of the construction of a satisfactory general treatise on the geography of all the world were so great that the chances for failure were quite equal to the prospects of success. The work, however, must be voted a genuine success. The editor has succeeded in securing the co-operation of an unusually large number of eminent specialists, and he has edited their various contributions with discrimination.

The book is divided into two general parts, the first 122 pages being given to a rather brief discussion of the principles of geography. Part two deals with the geography of the continents and countries, a chapter of the book being devoted to a description of the polar regions.

So many well-known writers have contributed to the volume, that it seems almost invidious to make special mention of any individuals; nevertheless, for purposes of illustration, the fact may be mentioned that the continent of Europe and the Chinese Empire are treated by Chisholm; political and applied geography are discussed by J. Scott Keltie; Professor Kirchhoff, of the University of Halle, contributes the article on the German Empire; explorer Nansen writes on the Arctic regions; the continent of North America and the United States are treated by Professor Davis of Harvard University. The scholarly character of all of Professor Davis' work is such as to give assurance that his contribution to this volume would be of a high order of merit. The editor was liberal in the amount of space granted to Professor Davis, and sixty-four pages are devoted to the discussion of the United States. After giving a brief résumé of the

historical and political geography of the United States, Professor Davis takes up regional geography, dividing the country into those physiographical divisions which he has adopted in former writings.

Persons teaching geography to high school and college classes, will find this work an excellent one for the students to use as collateral reading, and doubtless a systematic teacher of advanced political geography may make this a successful college text-book. The success of the college teacher will, in this case, depend upon his ability to unify and vivify his work. The volume will find an appropriate place in the library of every general reader of geography.

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